

Clark, Sara (DTC)

From: Peter d'Errico <derrico@wildblue.net> on behalf of Peter d'Errico <derrico@legal.umass.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, December 10, 2014 1:20 PM
To: Ron Cassel
Cc: Tim Haas; Dunlap, Ben N.; Donna MacNicol; Edward Connelly; Joe Decker; Curtis Mcmanaman; Tom Powers
Subject: Re: POP racks to be replaced

Ron -

- 1) The specification for an EIA 19-inch standard rack opening is **17.72"**, **not 17.5"**.
- 2) Take a second look at the photos we sent. They include measurements with a **machinist's square**, which is not subject to the 'metal hook' variance on a tape measure. They show the rack openings are less than the EIA 19-inch specification.
- 3) **The photos from Curtis confirm the rack opening does not meet the EIA spec. Subtracting the 'burned inch,' they show one opening at 16.5", one at 17", and one at 17.5".**
- 4) Tim met with Curtis this morning to measure the racks. They agreed there is a problem. They further agreed—and we approve—a Corning representative should examine the racks.
- 5) This appears to be a Corning problem.

p

On Dec 9, 2014, at 5:12 PM, Ron Cassel <rcassel@millenniuminc.com> wrote:

All,

We had Curtis go out this morning and measure the racks, prior to receiving the email below. Having worked with tape measures most of my life, I have concluded that measurements cannot be trusted when relying on the metal hook at the end of the tape. That said, we had Curtis measure the opening of each rack in three locations, the top, the center, and the bottom. Instead of relying on the metal hook, we had him move the start of the tape to the one inch mark (commonly called burning an inch). This will produce 18.5" measurements at the other end of the tape when measuring for a 17.5" opening. In some cases, the center of the rack was slightly less than the 17.5" spec (

The pictures attached are measurements on the same rack and are in order, the top, center, and bottom. Subtracting the inch, each measurement is 17.5". Although we found no evidence of any racks being out of spec., if the Committee believes that there is one, please schedule a meeting with our onsite staff to discuss the matter. Until then, these racks are compliant with the spec., were signed off on by the Committee, are sized appropriately for the term shelves, rectifiers and Calix gear, and therefore do not need to be changed out.

We continue to look for some sort of conversation and collaboration between members of the Broadband Committee and our team. This investigation should have been conducted with both parties present and cooperating. Instead we have more emails and ultimatums.

Ron

From: Tim Haas [<mailto:thaas@hged.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, December 09, 2014 1:27 PM

To: Ron Cassel

Cc: Dunlap, Ben N.; Peter d'Errico; Donna MacNicol; Edward Connelly; Joe Decker

Subject: RE: POP racks to be replaced

Hi Ron

We agree, the width of utility racks is rarely, if ever, questioned. We also agree that Corning is a respected supplier. Corning fiber cable and panels are everywhere. Racks, maybe not so much. At least this has been my experience.

I too have been puzzled but believe we have figured it out. The Broadband Committee requested I send you the attached report.

This is a follow up to pictures taken of measurements in the field that were sent to Joe yesterday. The balance of pictures were hand delivered via USB stick to Curtis this morning at the staging site.

Thank you

Tim

From: Ron Cassel <rcassel@millenniuminc.com>

To: Tim Haas <thaas@hged.com>

Cc: "Dunlap, Ben N." <Ben.Dunlap@leclairryan.com>, Peter d'Errico <derrico@legal.umass.edu>, Donna MacNicol <donna.mtb@verizon.net>, Edward Connelly <econnelly@millenniuminc.com>, Joe Decker <jdecker@matrixdg.com>

Date: 12/06/2014 12:48 PM

Subject: RE: POP racks to be replaced

Hi Tim,

The manufacturer has assured us of this, and in checking with the manufacturers of the uninstalled equipment, it seems to be holding up. As I stated, I've never come across this problem, so my confidence is reliant on the position of the manufacturer, Corning. If we find differently, we will certainly bring it to your attention and raise the issue with the manufacturer. We do not want to supply substandard equipment.

That said, I think we both know that Corning is the premier supplier of this type of equipment and was chosen by us solely because of that fact (they're not the cheapest option), it's hard to imagine that they fowled this up, but...

Let us know if we can be of any assistance.

Thanks,

Ron

From: Tim Haas [<mailto:thaas@hged.com>]

Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 8:34 PM

To: Ron Cassel

Cc: Dunlap, Ben N.; Peter d'Errico; Donna MacNicol; Edward Connelly; Joe Decker

Subject: RE: POP racks to be replaced

Hi Ron

We appreciate your investigation into this matter. We will do our part and investigate alternatives as well.

If, as you say, all of the equipment that Millennium purchased fits into the installed racks, it stands to reason other equipment should as well.

Thank you
Tim

From: Ron Cassel <rcassel@millenniuminc.com>
To: Peter d'Errico <derrico@legal.umass.edu>
Cc: Tim Haas <thaas@hged.com>, Joe Decker <jdecker@matrixdg.com>, Edward Connelly <econnelly@millenniuminc.com>, "Dunlap, Ben N." <Ben.Dunlap@leclairryan.com>, Donna MacNicol <donna.mtb@verizon.net>
Date: 12/05/2014 04:22 PM
Subject: RE: POP racks to be replaced

Hi Peter,

There is a minor issue with the 2U termination panel that Corning has acknowledged. Instead of shipping the panel with flat head screws, it was shipped with pan head screws, causing the panel to exceed the 17.5" by and 1/8" or less. They are shipping the proper screws, which will correct the oversight on their part. That said, there are 7 -4RU panels at the safety complex and 3- 4RU panels in the North Leveret facility, that are fully compliant and within the 17.5" guideline.

I disagree that the slight distortion being caused by the improper machine screw on the 3RU panel is infringing on the adjacent panel, especially since there are fiber management panels in between the units. That said, the fix from the manufacturer will correct the 3RU issue.

Thanks,
Ron

From: Peter d'Errico [<mailto:derrico@wildblue.net>] **On Behalf Of** Peter d'Errico
Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 4:04 PM
To: Ron Cassel
Cc: Tim Haas; Joe Decker; Edward Connelly; Dunlap, Ben N.; Donna MacNicol
Subject: Re: POP racks to be replaced

Ron - It is **not true** that Millennium's equipment "fits into the utility racks, without issue." We have photographs and measurements showing that your equipment was banged into position, distorting and shrinking the adjacent rack spaces even narrower than their already small widths.

p

On Dec 5, 2014, at 12:09 PM, Ron Cassel <rcassel@millenniuminc.com> wrote:

Hi Tim,

Admittedly, when I heard about this issue, I was a bit puzzled; how often does anybody measure the interior opening of a utility rack? That being said, when we did a little research, we found that these racks are fully NEBS compliant, as per section 3.3.8 of the bid document. Further, all of the equipment Millennium purchased for the project fits into the utility racks, without issue.

One explanation we heard (from Corning) was that these racks comply with "Telecom and Cable TV" standards, where the 7.72" spec is more common in LAN installations. What type of equipment were you trying to install in the frame? Is there an alternative method to doing so; i.e. with different brackets?

Based on our research, inclusive of input from Corning, the manufacturer and highly respected leader in this industry, the fact that the equipment we purchased fits into the racks, the racks were approved by the committee on July 23, 2014, and finally that they are compliant with NEBS, we respectfully disagree that the racks need to be replaced.

Other remedies might be to order a new frame that will house the equipment that Holyoke is proposing or to look for alternative mounting configurations for the proposed equipment.

Let me know if I can be of any assistance.

Respectfully,
Ron

From: Tim Haas [<mailto:thaas@hged.com>]
Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 8:20 AM
To: Joe Decker
Cc: Ron Cassel; Edward Connelly
Subject: POP racks to be replaced

Hi Joe

I brought the rack situation to the Committee's attention last night. I left with the following directives and was instructed to communicate them to you.

1. The racks must be replaced with 19" standard compliant racks.
2. Currently installed equipment must be removed from the existing racks and installed in new racks.
3. Any damaged equipment must be replaced.
4. No new or additional equipment is to be installed in the existing racks.

Like I said, I view this as a sideshow. I will support Millennium in any arguments for credit, refund and/or direct replacements with Corning. Several folks on my staff and myself have experienced first hand there is an issue with the width of the racks. It is clear that no field fabrication or adjustments can be made to the racks to bring them to standard since the top and bottom frame rails are welded. It appears as though it may be a manufacturing defect?

As mentioned previously, whatever the remedy, it needs to happen quickly. Gear is waiting to go in. Again, I suggest CPI or Hubbell.

Respectfully
Tim
Leverett Owner's Project Manager

Tim Haas

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